03158/DKT01040

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Harald Merkel
Priority Application No. 02023324.3 filed October 18, 2002

For: BACKING PLATE FOR
A DISK ASSEMBLY

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed for the sake of good order. No new matter is being added. Please amend the application as follows.